FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CLARIN COMMENTS ON POLITICAL REORGANIZATION

PY2203417 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 21 Apr 78 p 3 PY

[Text] THE POLITICAL PROCESS NOW UNDERWAY WILL ENTER A CRUCIAL STAGE TODAY WHEN MAJOR GENERALS AND ADMIRALS EACH MEET SEPARATELY TO ANALYZE THE POWER STRUCTURE.

The issue under debate--of obvious importance for the institutionality of the immediate future--has for 2 weeks been THE CRUCIAL FACTOR IN THE ARGENTINE POLITICAL SITUATION AND THE STARTING POINT FOR IMPORTANT DECISIONS GOING BEYOND THE ROUTINE.

IN EFFECT, IT IS A MATTER OF DECIDING WHO WILL BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT AND WHAT HIS SPECIFIC POWERS WILL BE.

Therefore, it is natural that for several days now the so-called "political community" has been experiencing one of its most agitated moments since 24 March 1976, and that a shower of conjecture has fallen in the country and abroad.

Everything which is happening in the political, economic and union fields is in some way related to the power issue.

The process of realinements, the search for alliances, the changes of fronts and the establishment of positions which have lately been affecting the country's political map are due mainly to the modifications to be introduced to the power structure AND THE NEED TO ADJUST ALL THE PIECES IN PLAY TO THE NEW BLOSSOMING STRUCTURE.

So what will be made clear is not only the name of a person and his powers. DEEP DOWN, IT IS A MATTER OF PUTTING TOGETHER A WHOLE POLITICAL SYSTEM FOR THE "SECOND PHASE" OF THIS PROCESS, AND OF DRAWING THE LINES WHICH WILL DECIDE EVERYONE'S PLACE AND POSITION ON THE NEXT GAMEBOARD.

That is why everything which happens outside the strictly military field--from the deliberations of politicians to union actions--should be reinterpreted in light of the power structure definition.

The military junta did not hold its usual Thursday meeting yesterday. If you will recall that last week the military junta decided to resume discussion of the power issue on the 27th of this month, you will have a good idea of the importance of today's conclaves, which may at least give an idea of what the three commanders will later decide.

THE POLITICAL SYSTEM NOW BEING DEVELOPED AND IMPLICIT IN THE NEW POWER STRUCTURE COULD HAVE ITS CENTER OF GRAVITY IN THE PRESIDENT, who will be "a high-ranking retired officer of the armed forces," according to the first guidelines of the process.

It is precisely during the period which begins today, and which will theoretically end on the 27th with the junta's decision, THAT THE NAME OF THE OFFICER WHO WILL OCCUPY THE PRESIDENCY WILL HAVE TO BE DECIDED, IN ADDITION TO THE RELATIONS AND RESPECTIVE FIELDS OF ACTION BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND THE ARMED FORCES.

From this decision will emerge the institutional structure--the starting and finishing point for the definition of the substance and goals of the upcoming "second phase."

LA RAZON ANALYZES NATIONAL REORGANIZATION PROCESS

PY2219145Y Buenos Aires LA RAZON in Spanish 21 Apr 78 p 1 PY

[Excerpts] In the last few hours the subject of defining the power pattern for the future stage of the national reorganization process has become almost the only one in military circles, with several meetings beginning today which will probably lead next week to the announced military junta meeting. The junta will reportedly make the decisions on when and which high-ranking retired armed forces officer to appoint as a president who is distinct from the commander in chief. Both decisions should be announced simultaneously, and regarding what some rumors have described as delimitation of the grey areas between the new president, who is not a commander in chief, and the military junta, it was maintained by some trustworthy analysis that those areas have been reduced to a minimum; that the documents drawn up before 24 March 1976 are in full force and that the grey areas may be limited to mere protocol matters which should not be difficult or complicated to solve. In short, it is expected that the name of the president as well as the date for the beginning of the new power pattern, will be announced to the country in a very short time.

It is known that a strong opinion stressed the suitability of making both announcements at the same time. This would prevent stirring up more speculation than there is already on what is apparently considered a difficulty in the progress of the process. It is also believed that the military junta itself, which decided shortly before 24 March 1976 that the commander in chief alone should exercise power, should be the body to put an end to that situation.

It should also be pointed out that during the next period the president will have more freedom of action, since now he must always keep within the limits drawn up in the documents agreed upon, and that some limiting factors which have been in force will disappear as another result of his exclusive position.

There are, of course, strong signs and advance reports which have seemed to throw light on unknown factors. If no news appears which has not yet been accounted for by competent observers, the date for the beginning of the new power pattern will be the last days of September or the first part of October. Regarding the man, two of the three armed forces have reportedly agreed on Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, and the third force is said not to have made any pronouncement yet.

As LA RAZON has reported, all generals on active duty have been called together. They will meet in the Libertador Building on Monday afternoon. This will be the second meeting of all generals to be held this year. It had been planned that four such meetings would be held each year, two in each 6-month period, and the first was held in March. This has led observers to the conclusion that the meeting on Monday was not scheduled but was called by decision of the commander in chief after the usual consultations.

This morning General Videla presided over a meeting of the high army commands which was attended by all commanders of divisions, corps and army institutes, together with the chief of staff, Maj Gen Roberto E. Viola. The only brigadier general present was Fernando H. Santiago, national gendarmerie director. It is known that the main subject was clarification of the power pattern. The army thinks, and this is no news, that General Videla should be appointed president in the last quarter of this year, once he is no longer commander in chief. But the army also stated, in an internal radio message of 29 March referring to this matter, that the military junta would soon decide the question. [paragraph continues]

It is believed that this position will again be confirmed at the generals' meeting on Monday as the stand taken by the army while it waits for the military junta decision.

The navy's final decision regarding the specific points being discussed in military circles is not yet known. It is known, however--although it has not been confirmed--that in the middle of this month the navy, through Commander Adm Emilio E. Massera, proposed a recess of about 15 days, when it was justifiably assumed that the military junta was already discussing the power structure and was ready to make a decision. For this reason, when it was announced that the admirals meeting was held this morning, all speculation was inclined toward the possibility that the council of admirals had discussed this matter. Therefore there was a lot of expectation about what their position would be. The meeting was presided over by Admiral Massera in the admirals hall of the Libertad Building, with the presence of all admirals on active duty assigned in the country.

At the end of the meeting at noon, the following communique was released: "The council of admirals met at 0900 presided over by its commander, Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera, in the Libertad Building, navy command headquarters. All admirals assigned in the country attended the meeting."

As we stated yesterday, the commander of the air force, Lt Gen Orlando Ramon Agosti, called a meeting of generals for next week. It will be held either Tuesday or Wednesday. It was learned from reliable air force sources that it is believed General Videla is the choice for the second stage of the process of national reorganization, not only because of his ability to get a military consensus but also because of the image of the armed forces government which he has presented abroad and because he has identified himself with the presidency, among other considerations. It is also known that the air force believes this choice will guarantee the process of reorganization, not only as regards military unity but also the faithful fulfillment of the documents signed by the armed forces before 24 March 1976. That is, the air force would choose General Videla as president for the second stage and has decided that 15 September-15 October is the appropriate time to implement the new power structure. It is also believed that the grey areas should not be a serious obstacle, because the documents will accurately delineate those aspects which some sources have mentioned as not being well clarified.

HERALD FAVORS VIDELA FOR 'FOURTH MAN'

PY221720Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 22 Apr 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Unity Above All Else"]

[Excerpts] The major difference between this government and the other military regimes that have ruled the country in the past lies in the power structure decided upon before the March 26, 1976 coup. The armed forces decided then that the ruling body in the government would be the junta, formed by the commanders of the three services. The responsibility of restoring and reorganizing the country was to be shared equally by the three armed forces. The armed forces also agreed that the country would be governed by a president, appointed by the three commanders. It was laid down that the president, or "fourth man" as he has come to be called, must be a retired military officer.

The HERALD has never had any doubt who the "fourth man" should be. President Videla is the obvious nomination because of his fine record over the past two years. [paragraph continues]

He is admired and respected abroad and he inspires genuine affection and trust at home. Yet he has never sought popularity through word or deed. The country owes a great deal to this shy man who has demonstrated that he has great inner strength and great sense of duty. He, most certainly, will never make any move which would endanger armed forces' unity. The decision is now up to the three armed forces. It is unfortunate that there has been any suggestion of a decision being made unilaterally; but a decision must be made soon to end the uncertainty which is damaging the country's progress. The country will be looking to the junta to come up with a decision which will reaffirm the unity and cohesion of the armed forces and begin a new stage in the life of a government that has been far more successful in most areas than any one could have dared to hope just over two years ago.

CONTROLS FOR PERUVIAN REACTOR TO BE SHIPPED

PY211435Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 21 Apr 78 PY

[Text] The electronic instruments designed, built and assembled by the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA] to control the reactor which is being built in Lima by agreement with the Peruvian Nuclear Energy Institute, will be shipped aboard an Argentine Air Force plane between now and Monday.

On the same trip from El Palomar airbase, a sophisticated set of electronic instruments to calibrate and adjust the equipment will be sent to Lima.

Also, CNEA technicians have already gone to Peru to train personnel of the organization working on this project.

AGREEMENT ON NEUQUEN HEAVY WATER PLANT SIGNED

PY211521Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0310 GMT 21 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpts] Neuquen, 20 Apr--It was officially reported tonight that [Neuquen] Province and the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA] signed an agreement on installing a heavy water plant in Arroyitos, on the right bank of the Limay River, 50 km west of this capital.

The heavy water plant will produce 250 tons annually. The plant's technical and economic studies have been submitted to the Economy and Planning ministries.

The installation of the plant was announced by President Jorge Rafael Videla during his visit to this capital on 20 October 1976.

BRIEFS

AID TO IVORY COAST--Buenos Aires, 13 Apr--The Banco de la Nacion Argentina has decided to grant a $34,620,000 loan for the construction of a hospital in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, according to official reports. The loan will also be used in providing equipment for the hospital. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1643 GMT 14 Apr 78 PY]

CHILEAN HIJACKER'S EXTRADITION--Mendoza--The Mendoza provincial court has agreed to a Chilean request for the extradition of Carlos Raul Tamayo Cuesta, who hijacked a Chilean National Airline Boeing 727 in June 1977 and forced it to land in Plumerillo. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Apr 78 PY]

SILES ZUAZO'S FUDP GAINS FURTHER SUPPORT

PY201523Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1150 GMT 20 Apr 78 PY

[Text] The National Revolutionary and Institutionalist Movement [Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario Institucionalista], headed by Roberto Jordan Pando, will join the Democratic and Popular Unity front [FUDP], led by Hernan Siles Zuazo, former constitutional president. This has been reported to Radio Panamericana by official spokesmen of that political front, who stated that talks about the move are well advanced and that the only thing remaining is to sign a document.

Regarding the Rebel National Revolutionary Movement [Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario Rebelde] and the People's National Revolutionary Movement [Movimiento Revolucionario Nacionalista del Pueblo], led by (Wilmer Perez) and (Horacio Torres), respectively, it was stated that those groups of the once grate National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] have decided to join the FUDP.

It was also stated that the talks with the Spartacus Group are well advanced and that in the next few days the fusing of that political sector with the political front formed by the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, the Bolivian Socialist Party of Aponte Burela and the pro-Moscow Communist Party will be decided.

New talks have now started with the leaders of the Paz Estenssoro sector of the MNR and with the Authentic Revolutionary Party led by Guevara Arze, with the aim of broadening Siles Zuazo's front with the participation of these two important political groups, which have many followers in rural areas, mines and cities.

In conclusion it was said that the Tupac Katari national peasants conference, led by Genaro Flores, is conducting direct talks with Siles Zuazo to give him unconditional support.

LABOR CENTRAL AGAIN CHARGES GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS

PY221736Y Sucre Radio 1a Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 22 Apr 78 PY

[Text] The Bolivian Labor Central has repeated its charge that there are official limitations and restrictions on that labor organization. Rene Higueras del Barco stated that this hinders the job the workers are engaged in and contradicts the guarantees of freedom granted by the government.

BRIEFS

COMIBOL TECHNOLOGICAL IMPLEMENTATION--The Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL] invested $40,746,000 in the technological implementation of subordinate enterprises during 1977 to replace equipment, machines, materials and working tools in mines and factories. COMIBOL sources stated that the above amount represents two main items: operating expenditures, $27,895,000, and investments, $12,851,000. [La Paz EL DIARIO 13 Apr 78 p 3 PY]

INSTALLATION OF EXPLOSIVES FACTORY--The Armed Forces National Development Corporation will sign an agreement with a Japanese consortium to build an explosives factory in Bolivia. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 19 Apr 78 PY]

FIGUEIREDO TO MAINTAIN FOREIGN POLICY 'WITH INFLEXIBILITY'

PY220240Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Apr 78 p 1 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo, the candidate designated for the presidential succession, stated that he intends to maintain the Geisel government's present foreign policy. "And with inflexibility," the general added while declining to give any additional details.

This was the first time that General Figueiredo used the expression "with inflexibility" to define the manner in which he will conduct President Geisel's foreign policy based on "universal pragmatism." On previous occasions, the future president merely stated his intention to maintain the present foreign policy. The general's new statement was made yesterday at Itamaraty during a cocktail party after the decoration ceremony of the Rio Branco Order medals.

PLANNING MINISTER ON REDEMOCRATIZATION OF POLITICAL PROCESS

PY220303Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 22 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo--Planning Minister Reis Velloso has stated that Brazil is firmly going toward the redemocratization of its political process. During the closing ceremony of the third Brazilian advertising congress, Minister Reis Velloso--who usually avoids broaching political subjects--surprised the 1,000-strong audience by stating that "the institutionalization of the country is changing."

He went on to add that "many taboos have been broken in the last few months and there is a political atmosphere favorable to the appearance of new values and new ideas."

The minister also stated that the two worst enemies of the process of political opening are radicalization, which gives rise to resistance, and demagoguery, which calls for a return to obsolete values.

DIFFICULTY NOTED IN CHOOSING SAO PAULO GOVERNOR

PY211926Y Aparecida Radio Aparecida in Portuguese 1430 GMT 21 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Gen Golbery do Couto e Silva, chief of the ministerial civilian cabinet, acknowledged yesterday that there has been a great deal of difficulty in choosing the new governor for Sao Paulo State.

General Couto e Silva said those difficulties stem from the complicated political picture within the state. The government has been informed, he said, that no matter who is chosen, it will be difficult for the National Renewal Alliance to stave off defeat in the November 1978 election.

Considering the four front running candidates--Olavo Setubal, Delfin Neto, Laudo Natel and Rafael Baldacci--nobody wants to predict the chances for the first two, and it is recognized that Laudo Natel and Rafael Baldacci command more political strength within the state than the other two candidates. [passage indistinct]

SOUTHERN BEACHES CLOSED DUE TO POSSIBLE NUCLEAR CONTAMINATION

PY211842Y Aparecida Radio Aparecida in Portuguese 1430 GMT 21 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo--All beaches on the southern coast between Itanhaem and Peruibe have been closed until further notice. This decision was made by the Environment Works Secretariat after a large number of dead fish appeared on the beaches of the region, perhaps due to contamination by nuclear waste. Fishing along this coast has also been prohibited. Investigations continue in Santa Vitoria do Palmar and neighboring areas to determine the cause.

INVESTIGATION INTO RIO GRANDE DO SUL POLLUTION CONTINUES

PY191842Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Apr 78 p 18 PY

[Excerpts] The shipping company Lloyd Brasileiro has admitted that the highly toxic gas causing pollution on the Uruguayan and Rio Grande do Sul coasts may have come from the sunken ship "Taquari." This ship, which foundered 7 years ago in that area, carried a cylinder-contained load of 7 tons of propylene and 7 tons of ethylamine, two toxic and flammable substances used as gasoline additives. But it did not carry mercury.

Today Health Minister Almeida Machado will set up a working office at Santa Vitoria do Palmar, 500 km south of Porto Alegre, where 31 experts are studying the effects and the origin of the gas, which continues to kill fish, birds and domestic animals. According to the Rio Grande do Sul health secretary, the pollution of that area "is the greatest ecological disaster in Brazil ever."

Seawater samples analyzed showed traces of mercury when one method was employed, but not when using other methods for crosschecking.

As a precautionary measure, the Rio Grande do Sul Government has recommended that the state population refrain from consuming fish until the origin and effects of this pollution are known.

HOUSE OF AMNESTY LEADER BOMBED IN BELO HORIZONTE

PY191836Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1655 GMT 19 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Belo Horizonte, 19 Apr--It was reported here that the explosion of a bomb produced some damage but no victims at the residence of Helena Greco, leader of the Women's Amnesty Movement in Minas Gerais. The house is located a few meters from the headquarters of the 4th Infantry Brigade, one of the main army units in Belo Horizonte.

Before the explosion, the police had discovered and removed another bomb in the San Antonio school auditorium, where Greco and Teresinha Zerbini, president of the National Women's Movement, were commemorating the amnesty approved by President Getulio Vargas in 1945.

BRIEFS

NEW TANKER FOR PETROBRAS--PETROBRAS receives today a 131,000-ton tanker built by the Ishikawajima shipyards of Brazil Inc. The national fleet will now have 50 tankers. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 20 Apr 78 PY]

VEHICLE TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS MODIFIED

PY241924Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpt] The emergency zone office has modified the restrictions on the movement of vehicles at night. This announcement was made by Brig Gen Enrique Morel, chief of the emergency zone area. Decree No 119, which changes these restrictions, will be issued tomorrow.

[begin General Morel recording] The decree, which will regulate the movement of vehicles at night, will be issued tomorrow. This new decree stems from the tranquil atmosphere which we are presently experiencing. This has led the government, with the well-intentioned spirit which always guides its actions of giving maximum benefits [to citizens], to modify Decree Law No 119, dated 31 March 1978.

What does this modification imply?

The basic point is that on Saturdays and on eves of holidays there will be no limits on the movement of vehicles at night. In other words, there is complete freedom of movement. [end recording]

This new order is to be enforced in the metropolitican area and San Antonio Province, and in the 4th and 6th regions which are also under the jurisdiction of General Morel as commander of the 2d Army Division.

General Morel added, however, that this measure will be enforced throughout the country because it is an order adopted by the Interior Ministry.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FORMAL WITHDRAWAL FROM CAF

PY220250Y Santiago Chile Radio Agricultura in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Through a decree law published in today's gazette, signed by the president and other junta members, Chile today officially withdrew from the Andean Development Corporation [CAF]. The law [word indistinct] the additional protocol of the joint agreement signed in Bogota, Colombia, on 12 October 1977, thus withdrawing from the regional organization.

EXPULSION ORDERED FOR MEXICAN CITIZEN IN PRISON

PY212147Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Apr 78 PY

[Text] In accordance with legal rules in force, the government will expel Mexican citizen (Jorge Albino Soza Gil) from the country; he has been serving a life prison term for having murdered Army Lt (Hector Lacrampette) in 1973.

This report was issued by Interior Ministry Under Secretary Enrique Montero, who said that (Soza Gil) will leave Chilean territory this afternoon by an Aeroperu flight. The official remarked that the same measure will be taken against all non-Chileans who have obtained their release under the recently published amnesty decree.

PRESIDENT ASKED TO CONVENE WAGE STRUCTURE COMMISSIONS

PA180347Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 17 Apr 78 PA

[Text] The National Labor Union Council, which is composed of the Union of Workers of Colombia [UTC], Confederation of Workers of Colombia, Trade Union Confederation of Workers of Colombia and Central Labor Confederation labor centrals, today asked President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen to convene the commissions that will be in charge of analyzing the wage structure and the reform of the government workers' salary scale.

Hernando Rodriguez, a member of the UTC Executive Committee, noted that organized labor is in a position to give the government and the president specific reports on the country's social, labor and economic problems as soon as required. He said that the wage structure commission has specific studies on the government as well as on the private sector which can be put into practice if the government is looking for a true salary policy.

ANAPO DISOWNS LEADER FOR 'BETRAYING' PARTY

PA180247Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 16 Apr (EFE)--Maria Eugenia de Rojas de Moreno Diaz, the leader and former presidential candidate of the National Popular Alliance [ANAPO], was harshly criticized by her party today for having "betrayed the party."

Maria Eugenia, who leads the movement founded by her father Gen Gustavo Rojas Pinilla, was defeated in the 1974 presidential elections.

All of her authority to speak on behalf of the party was withdrawn at an ANAPO general meeting attended by 125 delegates from all over the country.

Several years ago the late Gen Gustavo Rojas Pinilla, who became president after a military coup, disinherited his son Gustavo Rojas Correa for supporting a presidential candidate from the Conservative Party.

EL TIEMPO COMMENTS ON CARTER'S INTER-AMERICAN POLICY

PA222331Y Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Apr 78 p 4A PA

[Editorial: "Toward a New Inter-American Policy?"]

[Text] One of the first Colombian documents to express this country's interest in building the interoceanic canal in Panama was the letter sent by Foreign Minister Felipe Paul to the then civilian and military department chiefs on 25 September 1902 (a little more than a year before the treacherous theft of Roosevelt the bad). The letter emphasized the canal's importance to Colombia and asked for the opinion of competent persons throughout the country so that the nation could state its position on this delicate matter.

There then followed numerous communications from our ministers in Washington--at that time there were no ambassadors. First it was Carlos Martinez Silva and later Dr Jose Vicente Concha. Finally, we arrived at the Colombia-United States convention, which was signed by Tomas Herran for our government and Secretary of State John Hay. [paragraph continues]

This convention led to nothing and in June 1902 [date as published] the United States passed a law authorizing the president of that already powerful nation to contract for the building of a canal.

We have recalled this brief historical note in order to show that Colombia was greatly interested in this tremendous engineering feat, one of the most efficient and daring in the world. And even today, at the end of the century, the interest of President Lopez is still held by the process which climaxed on the afternoon of Tuesday, 18 April, with the U.S. Senate's ratification of the treaties. These vital and important treaties between the United States and Panama have erased the shame felt by all of Latin America caused by the absurd existence of the 1903 treaty which turned the former Colombian isthmus into an obedient colonial enclave.

We must admit, above all, that the success which has been attained is essentially a personal victory for President Jimmy Carter, who made this issue a cornerstone of his foreign policy. It is also noble proof that there is on the part of Washington--or, better yet, on the part of Carter--a real and not merely a poetic or abstract concept of inter-American relations which is based on concrete and creative realities for the creation of strong ties and not merely on vain words of friendship protocol having little importance and much less effect. Even the fact that Carter spoke to the Latin American people in excellent Spanish gave the event a praiseworthy note of hearfelt cordiality representative of the good intention of turning the agreement reached with Panama into proof of a policy of cooperation--these were Carter's words--and of creating a level of coexistence and mutual understanding between the Americas in accordance with the thesis which the U.S. President has adopted as a banner--to universally expand respect for the rights of men and people.

German Arciniegas, in one of his wonderful books on this our hemisphere, wrote these words which today's events have brought to mind: "Around the year 1810 there began to circulate in our America a new expression whose revolutionary sense we are just beginning to understand in our day, 'the sovereign people.' Up until this time the only 'sovereign' was the king of Spain. Today the mob is sovereign, the wretched are sovereign, the crowd which gathers on market days is sovereign." Well, the "sovereign" mentioned by the Colombian author has been, in the first place, the sovereign Panamanian and, in solidarity with him, the sovereign Latin American men who have made possible with their dignity the elimination of the same which weighed on America.

And just as we recognize the gratitude owed to Mr Carter's victorious stubbornness in the defense of the treaties which we have mentioned, it would be unfair to ignore the role played by three of the most steadfast democracies in America--Colombia, Costa Rica and Venezuela--and their legitimate constitutional rulers. Our president especially expressed during his trip to Washington the urgent need to reach an agreement and worked tirelessly to insure our full rights concerning that vital waterway.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER ARGENTINE MINISTER'S VISIT

PA232252Y Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 14 Apr 78 pp 1, 8 PA

[Text of Joint Ecuadorean-Argentine communique issued in Quito on 13 April 1978 following 11-13 April 1978 visit to Ecuador of Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes, Argentine minister of foreign relations and worship]

[Text] Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes, Argentine minister of foreign relations and worship, paid an official visit to Ecuador on 11, 12 and 13 April 1978 in reply to an invitation extended by Ecuadorean Foreign Relations Minister Jose Ayala Lasso.

The Argentine foreign minister was received in a special audience by Vice Adm Alfredo Poveda Burbano and Div Gen Guillermo Duran Arcentales, president and member of the Supreme Council of Government, respectively, with whom he held a cordial talk on matters of mutual interest.

After these talks the two foreign ministers, within a climate of sincere friendship and understanding, agreed to issue the following:

Joint Communique

The foreign relations ministers ratified the foreign ministers joint declaration signed in Buenos Aires on 5 April 1977 as well as the contents of the press release issued during the official 11 June 1977 visit to Ecuador of Adm Emilio Massera, member of the Argentine military junta.

They reasserted their unshakeable faith in the principles and goals contained in the UN and OAS charters as well as their support for the principles concerning the maintenance of peace and nonintervention in the domestic or foreign affairs of other countries. They also rejected the use of threats or force and any other coercive measures in international relations.

They reasserted their firm belief in the principle of finding peaceful solutions to disputes between countries and agreed on the importance of negotiations and direct dialog in order to find solutions to the same. They also proposed the development of a climate of understanding and cooperation between nations and likewise reaffirmed their faith in finding solutions to the problems which still persist in the continent within a framework of justice and equity.

They agreed that the well-being of peoples can only be obtained within a society which rejects violence of all kinds. Therefore, they condemned terrorism and international subversion in any of their forms, either direct or indirect, because they are detrimental to the right of mankind to live in security, peace and dignity so that each person can realize his full development within a climate of freedom, order and justice.

They expressed their concern over the alarming characteristics assumed by the arms race which threatens peace on both world and regional levels. The arms race absorbs economic resources which can be spent for the integral development of peoples.

They also expressed their concern over the constant increase of the great powers' nuclear arsenals and the corresponding huge investments of capital at a time when there is a growing difference between developed and developing countries.

They emphasized that there is an urgent need to promote multilateral negotiations on disarmament keeping in mind the points of view of all states, which have a legitimate right to protect their vital interests.

In this respect they expressed their belief that the next period of UN extraordinary sessions dedicated to disarmament must be a fundamental step in reaching this goal. The two foreign ministers congratulated each other on the identical attitudes assumed by the two countries in the preparations for said meeting.

The Ecuadorean foreign relations minister reiterated his government's support for Argentina's right to exercise its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands according to legal principles and historic rights. He also expressed his confidence that the negotiations between Argentina and Great Britain and Northern Ireland will end in the most satisfactory manner for both parties.

The ministers reiterated the intention of having their delegations continue to cooperate in the third Law of the Sea Conference to find a solution to problems still pending which are of interest to both countries and to America in general.

They reaffirmed the rights of sovereignty and jurisdiction of littoral states over the maritime zone adjacent to their coasts up to a distance of 200 miles, without restrictions to navigation and overflights as accepted by international law.

They considered that an international agreement on the ocean bottom outside national jurisdictions should include the joint participation of all states in the use of that zone for peaceful purposes, assuring that the exploration and exploitation of resources are in line with the fact that these areas belong to all mankind and giving special consideration to the interests of developing countries in such a way as to protect mineral-producing countries from the risks derived from an exploitation of resources from the ocean floor without proper controls.

The ministers said that the sovereignty of littoral states over the continental shelf extends to the farthest edge of the continental shelf or to a distance of 200 miles when the shelf does not reach that distance.

They recalled with satisfaction Resolution 32/158 issued on 19 December 1977 by the 32d UN General Assembly which approved the plan of action and other agreements reached by the UN Conference on Water and gave their support to future activities aimed at reaching the objectives established in the plan.

The ministers expressed their decision to implement a joint policy in the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to see that outer space is not exclusively exploited by countries with a high level of technology and by transnational companies. Instead, being the common property of all mankind and based on the philosophy of the new international economic order, the two countries will work to insure that its use is oriented above all toward improving living conditions in developing countries.

They agreed on the need to initiate bilateral technical contacts in order to study possible joint participation in an American geostationary satellite system which would be located in Ecuador's orbital area, would be open to all developing countries of the continent and would be used for the purpose of meeting their needs regarding communications.

The ministers recognized the need for promoting general contacts at the university, cultural and artistic levels between corresponding institutions of both countries as well as the need to encourage activities directed toward learning more about each country and the need to carry out scientific investigations into matters of common interest to both countries, as established in the cultural cooperation agreement signed between the two countries on 1 July 1965 in Buenos Aires.

According to Articles 12 and 13 of the agreement, they agreed on the formation and operation of an Ecuadorean-Argentine joint commission, which will meet jointly with the Ecuadorean-Argentine Economic and Technical Coordination Special Commission during its third meeting.

Reiterating their constant belief in mutual cooperation, as expressed in several bilateral agreements signed between Ecuador and Argentina, the ministers agreed to increase their collaboration with the Agriculture and Livestock Technical Institute of the Sierra, particularly in the training of teachers.

The ministers agreed that current world economic conditions and the outlook for future development make it more necessary each day for Latin American countries to accelerate the pace of their integration process through methods that best meet their national, regional and subregional needs. In this context, they expressed their conviction that it is necessary to implement as soon as possible all measures leading to the activation and strengthening of the Latin American Free Trade Association. The ministers also expressed their satisfaction over the progress of the Cartagena agreement and affirmed that their countries' joint actions, which they considered deeply related to the integration effort, will strengthen integration with a view toward the harmonious and balanced development of Latin America.

The ministers also agreed on the importance of promoting the operation of the Andean-Argentine joint commission as a way to effectively increase the possibilities of cooperation between Argentina and the Andean group, especially in the field of industrial cooperation.

The ministers expressed their satisfaction over the results obtained by the Latin American Economic System [LAES] in its 2 years of operation and reiterated their intention of giving the proper support to the objectives of LAES as a Latin American organization for consultation, coordination and cooperation. In this respect, the two ministers expressed the intention of the Ecuadorean and Argentine governments to take advantage of the possibilities of cooperation offered by LAES through already-functioning action committees.

Argentina's minister of foreign relations and worship said that his government will study the possibility of participating in the Action Committee on Housing and Buildings of Social Interest which has its headquarters in Quito. On the other hand, Ecuador's foreign relations minister disclosed that his government will ask to participate in the Action Committee on Grain, Seed, Fruit and Edible Oil Plants which has its headquarters in Buenos Aires.

The ministers agreed that the close interdependence which exists between members of the contemporary international community establishes the situation whereby cooperation, integration and economic complementation ought to be an efficient means of obtaining a harmonious development that will permit the improvement of people's living standards and the elimination of malnutrition, which still exists in vast areas of the continent. Also, the improvement of living standards and the elimination of malnutrition will bolster the efforts aimed at development.

In this regard, the ministers expressed their decision to proceed as soon as possible to exchange the instruments of ratification of the economic cooperation agreement signed on 5 April 1977 in Buenos Aires and expressed the conviction that ratification of the agreement will further stimulate cooperation and mutually complementary efforts favoring the expansion of national economies.

After reviewing the results of the second meeting of the Ecuadorean-Argentine Economic and Technical Coordination Special Commission, the two ministers expressed their satisfaction over the increase in the cooperative activities between both countries, particularly in the fields of hydrocarbons, petrochemicals and civilian aviation and in the development of programs in energy, hydroelectricity, thermoelectricity, solar energy, wind movements, geothermics, sea currents and hydrology, meteorology, cold storage and silos and industrial construction systems for housing, among others. They also stressed their common desire and coordinated efforts to contribute to scientific and technological development on the highest level for the greatest benefit of their respective countries.

The ministers agreed that the aforementioned special commission will hold its third meeting in Quito in the second half of 1978 so that within the framework of its duties it can establish new sectors in which mutual cooperation and economic and technical complementation can result in mutual benefit and also set the course of action that will permit the implementation of the decisions adopted.

The ministers were pleased to note that, according to the cooperation agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy signed on 5 April 1977, the two countries had taken positive steps toward efficient cooperation on nuclear matters. This cooperation will allow the two countries to share the advantages of the peaceful use of atomic energy, giving them a possible alternative in view of the growing future demands for energy.

The two ministers reasserted their conviction concerning the need for a strict application of the principle of sovereign equality between states regarding the exchange of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. They believe that any discrimination in this field will affect the interests of developing countries and the international community in general.

They agreed in their opinions on the suitability of promoting the industrial development of the two countries by supporting projects and establishing mixed companies. In this respect, they agreed to promote contacts among private businessmen, particularly through the creation of committees in the various sectors which will function within the framework of the Ecuadorean-Argentine Economic and Technical Coordination Special Commission, as an effective means of expanding commercial relations between both countries and complementing both economies.

Encouraged by the highly positive cooperation which has been developing for several years between the Argentine Government Oil Deposits enterprise and the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation and taking into consideration the broad prospects for economic cooperation which are opening for the two countries, the ministers decided to strengthen the existing cooperation between the two corporations with the goal of forming binational companies which will carry out specific projects in the oil industry and in its different areas as well as for the marketing of crude oil and its byproducts.

They also examined the great importance of developing as much as possible their bilateral trade on a just, equitable and profitable basis, seeing this as an efficient means to intensify their economic relations.

In this respect, the ministers agreed on the promotion of contacts between private businessmen of both countries so that they can contribute ideas to the Ecuadorean-Argentine Economic and Technical Coordination Special Commission. The ministers believe that this will be an efficient means of promoting balanced bilateral trade.

In thoroughly analyzing the application of the basic agreement on technical and scientific cooperation signed in Quito on 26 January 1972, the ministers stressed the importance of the transfer of technology as a way of increasing the development of production activities and expressed the intention of their respective governments to establish new bilateral programs in this area, taking into consideration the development plans of both countries.

They expressed their confidence that, within the framework of the United Nations, the dialog which was begun on the occasion of the international conference on economic cooperation will continue and the developing countries will express their political will so that their just proposals on raw materials, energy, financing and economic development will result in concrete decisions.

The two ministers reaffirmed their concern over and disagreement with the discriminatory provisions of the U.S. foreign trade law of 1974, which establishes unequal treatment in the application of the generalized system of preferences and which affects several countries of the region.

They reaffirmed their decision to unite the efforts of both countries at the next UN conference on technical cooperation among developing countries, which will be held in Buenos Aires this year, for the best possible success of the conference through the establishment of principles to guide and promote cooperation.

They expressed their concern over the growing tendency which is being manifested in international organizations for cooperation and financial and technical assistance to push aside those states which have attained some degree of development and agreed to act jointly in an effort to see that this situation is overcome.

The ministers also expressed their disagreement with the practice observed in the same organizations of holding for consideration the granting of credits, basing their decision on political considerations not related to the technical or financial merits of the projects under study.

The foreign affairs and worship minister of Argentina expressed his gratefulness for the warm and fraternal reception and cordial hospitality granted him by the government and people of Ecuador as well as for the courteous attentions extended to him during his visit to Ecuador.

[signed] Jose Ayala Lasso, minister of foreign relations of Ecuador

Oscar Antonio Montes, minister of foreign relations and worship of Argentina

PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ POSTPONES TRIP TO ARGENTINA

PA241836Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1623 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 24 Apr (AFP)--Peruvian President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez has postponed his trip to Buenos Aires, Argentina, until the second half of this year, it was learned here today. President Morales' visit to Argentina was scheduled for May.

Rear Adm Julio Juan Bardi, Argentina's social welfare minister, who announced that the president had postponed his trip, left this morning for his country after a 7-day official trip to Peru.

Bardi also announced that Rear Adm Geronimo Caferatta, Peruvian housing and construction minister, will soon visit Argentina. No date was given.

Bardi stated that his trip to Peru was very successful and promising based on the agreements reached. Bardi and Caferatta signed an agreement for technical and scientific cooperation in the fields of development, housing and construction.

PRC SPORTS MINISTER TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT

PA230320Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1629 GMT 22 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 22 Apr (AFP)--PRC Sports Minister Sung Ching [as received] will arrive in Peru on 20 May, it was reported here today.

The sources reported that the Chinese minister will talk with local officials about mutual assistance in the area of sports.

FIRST NUCLEAR REACTOR TEST TO BE CONDUCTED WITHIN 15 DAYS

PA241428Y Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Within 15 days, Peru will conduct its first nuclear test after completing the installation of 120 electronic modules and a series of test instruments which were the final parts needed for the [word indistinct] reactor center located in Santa Catalina District in Lima.

These parts, in fact, arrived at 1215 yesterday at Jorge Chavez International Airport aboard an Argentine Air Force 1st Brigade Hercules flight.

AMNESTIED PSR MEMBERS GIVE VIEWS ON RETURN

PA172234Y Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Antonio Meza Cuadra [secretary general of the Socialist Revolutionary Party--PSR] last night presented on television the PSR members who have returned to the country availing themselves of the amnesty granted by the government.

Retired Gen Leonidas Rodriguez Figueroa stated: We are not bitter; we have come to work for our people, to tell them that the PSR is a true alternative to achieve power.

Rafael (Oro Cayolo) said that socialism means democracy and liberty. He noted that the PSR believes there can exist a constitutional guarantees tribunal elected by popular vote.

For his part, Hugo Blanco found fault with all political parties and criticized the Peruvian revolution, especially the first phase of the revolution.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION WORKERS HOLD 24-HOUR STRIKE

PA220011Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2315 GMT 20 Apr 78 PA

[By Miguel Paredes]

[Text] Lima, 20 Apr (LATIN)--At least 200,000 public transportation service workers held a 24-hour "national strike" today in an orderly and peaceful manner to demand bus fare increases, said the top leader of the Peruvian Federation of Drivers [FCHP], which called the strike.

"The strike was held as planned, that is, in a proper manner and without violence. Our 200,000 members have observed the strike," leader Juan Luna added.

The strike was boycotted by the state-owned bus lines, the social property [as received] bus lines and the cooperatives which operate some buses in Lima and other Peruvian cities. This decision favored the workers, most of whom ignored the strike. The same was true of students.

Luna told LATIN that the striking transportation workers are demanding a 25 to 30 percent increase in fares which are now set at 8 to 10 soles (6 to 10 cents).

Luna said that only 40 percent of the public transportation service units operated in Lima and added that "it is materially impossible" to provide efficient service under these conditions.

LATIN correspondents visited several sections of Lima and, with the exception of some areas in outlying districts, the city was calm. There was, however, considerable police vigilance, especially at the universities.

The FCHP called the strike in spite of government warnings that it would cancel the route concessions of the minibus committees which went on strike.

Meanwhile, another drivers organization, the Peruvian Federation of Drivers and Affiliates, urged its members to boycott the strike, claiming that it was of a political nature.

Labor Minister Gen Jose Garcia Calderon said today that in spite of the partial strike, most Peruvian workers had reported to their jobs normally, "thereby allowing the country to continue along the path of economic recuperation."

SOUTHERN PERU COPPER CORPORATION WORKERS RETURN TO WORK

PA181635Y Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 18 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Workers of the Southern Peru Copper Corporation of Ilo returned to work as usual after they agreed on Saturday to call off their general strike which started on 27 March. The executive leaders of the two unions involved reached this decision after having discussed their present situation extensively, a communique stated.

TORRIJOS OFFERS TO MEDIATE IN ALDO MORO CASE

PA241356Y Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] It has been reported from Rome that Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera has offered his regime's fullest cooperation to save the life of former Prime Minister Aldo Moro. Panamanian Ambassador to Italy Luis Carlos Zarak said he received these instructions from General Torrijos by telephone. Zarak said that Torrijos told him that Panama is willing to give asylum to the persons whose release is considered necessary to save Moro's life.

General Torrijos' gesture is based upon recognition of Aldo Moro's noble status.

RETURNING EXILES TO ASSESS RESTORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PA250316Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Six days after Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos announced the government's willingness to allow all political exiles to return, three of them arrived at Tocumen airport today. The first three to arrive were Carlos Gonzalez de la Lastra, Thelma King and Humberto Lopez.

They arrived at Tocumen at noon today from Caracas, Venezuela, where they spent the past 2 years. They were welcomed at Tocumen airport by a group of people numbering a little over 100. The group included students and civilians, who souted anti-U.S. slogans.

Carlos Gonzalez de la Lastra, who was the leader of the Social Democratic Party and president of the Panamanian Association of Business Executives, said upon arrival that he hopes to work toward the unity of the opposition and the end of the dictatorship in Panama.

In turn, former Deputy Thelma King, who lived in various European and American countries during the past 8 years, said she is returning to Panama to find out what the country's situation is like and to meet with those who have opposed the regime up to now.

Humberto Lopez, who said that he is a law school student, noted that he came to Panama to see what the democratic process is like and will then leave the country in order to inform the other exiles of the situation.

De la Lastra, King and Lopez are the first of a group of 12 expected to arrive in Panama today. The others are Manuel Solis Palma, Jorge Weeden, Winston Robles, Miguel Bernal, Jorge Turner, Guillermo Ford, Alvin Weeden, Roberto Eisenmann and Ivan Robles.

According to a communique issued by the exiles, the group arriving in Panama will assess the first step toward the restoration of public liberties and human rights in Panama and, after determining their basic right to travel to and from their country, the group will leave the country prior to 30 April in order to report to their fellow exiles.

The assessment to be made by the group of exiles on the promulgation of an overall amnesty for exiles and political prisoners will include the exercise of freedom of assembly and freedom of speech, the extent of civil rights against arbitrary arrest and the right to trial.

MATUTINO COLUMNIST URGES EXILES TO RETURN

PA222108Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 22 Apr 78 p 6A PA

["Conciencia Publica" column by Miguel Angel Moreno Gongora: "The Exiles Must Have Confidence"]

[Text] By order of the chief of government, who undoubtedly embodies the government's will, the national government has declared that all exiles can return to the country without reservations or conditions in order to go about their individual activities.

It is true that no amnesty decree has been issued in connection with the invitation to return to the country, but it is also true that no resolutions were issued when the persons were expelled as these expulsions were outside the law. Under these circumstances it is logical to conclude that if no law were issued for the expulsion, then no law is needed for the exiles' return. Only the general's word is needed.

This is so because the chief of government may reach official decisions at any time without the need for a decree or resolution, without being based on any law, and those decisions have the authority of laws. This is a true and undeniable fact often repeated in what has been called the revolutionary process. Also, we must grant the government the benefit of the doubt and assume that it is acting in good faith.

I think that the exiles should immediately take advantage of the government's authorization to return and should firmly believe that it is not a trap because the present situation would not permit the system to commit such a crime. The world's eyes are upon our country and our people are not going to let themselves be misled any longer. In addition, there are very sensible persons in the government who have definitely understood that firm and solid steps such as these must be taken to bring about the democratic and institutional consolidation of the country.

I do not think it is necessary for the exiles to demand guarantees in writing or palpable proof that this is not a trap. Anyway, a tyrannical and dictatorial government would break its word with or without a decree. But I do not think such is the situation here. I feel that when the chief of government says the permission to return is unconditional, this means that those who return can freely dedicate themselves to the activities which democracy permits. Otherwise, their return would be a farce. Consequently, the exiles should return and organize their political, civic and social activities--if that is what they want--and do this freely, with confidence. If something happens afterward, it would show the world that the present government lied in its offer of a safe return.

FAS ISSUES COMMUNIQUE AT BEGINNING OF SCHOOL TERM

PA171723Y Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Apr 78 PA

[Text of communique of the Secondary Students Anti-Imperialist Front read by front member Hernan (Casis) during the "Canonero de Domplin" program--live]

[Text] Comrade students, Panamanian people: At the start of this school year, the Secondary Students Anti-Imperialist Front [Frente Anti-Imperialista de Secundaria--FAS] expresses revolutionary greetings at this time when the country is passing through important moments in view of the U.S. Senate debates on the ratification of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the electoral process and the need to strengthen the current revolutionary process and to continue the task of transforming education.

The FAS, which has expressed its support of the anti-imperialist and national liberation policy of General Torrijos' government, reiterates that support. The FAS is preparing to actively and militantly participate in the elections so that the results will mark the defeat of the traditional parties and oligarchy's desire to return to power. The FAS will support all initiatives to unite the candidates of the democratic and anti-imperialist forces as a way to strengthen the people's role in positions of power.

Our organization, which in October 1977 expressed its support for the Torrijos-Carter treaties because it considered that in essence they establish an acceptable decolonization program in the framework of the current national and international situation, reiterates this position and expresses its repudiation of all amendments, understandings and reservations which, as the DeConcini reservation does, violate three nonnegotiable principles:

1. Panama's sovereignty over all its territory, which means the end of the colonialist enclave and effective sovereignty over the Canal Zone.

2. The control and management of the canal by Panama.

3. The end of all U.S. military presence in the national territory and the withdrawal of its military troops on the established date.

The oligarchy and imperialism, the sworn enemies of our people, are trying to take advantage of weaknesses in the national liberation process. They speak of "democratic freedoms" and the return of the "political parties." They are trying to impose a solution in favor of their interests by: 1) subjugating the government; 2) isolating us internationally; and 3) removing General Torrijos.

In the face of these maneuvers, the FAS calls on all active forces of the student movement to continue struggling to defend the achievements which have been obtained, to support General Torrijos and to reject a return to the past. We demand that the government strengthen the people's support by establishing a fiscal policy that will result in greater savings of the people's money. We demand that the government support and develop state enterprises and speed up state mechanisms so that effective solutions can be rapidly found concerning the people's most pressing problems. The government should realize that it marches alongside the workers and peasants and that anti-imperialist unity will guarantee total liberation. The government should activate its policy of seeking support among the nonalined countries, the forces which struggle for peace and disarmament and the socialist camp.

Therefore, the FAS asks that we be on the alert against conformism [as heard] and adventurism. Instead, we should march united alongside the other anti-imperialist forces to demand that the Yankee government change the Senate resolution on the neutrality treaty so that the aforementioned principles will be respected. We invite the people to struggle for increasing the quality of our education and strengthening educational reform. We should always bear in mind that we are not marching alone but that we are firmly clasping the hands of the liberation army, composed at this time of workers, peasants, students, militarymen, professionals and sectors of the anticolonialist bourgeoisie in the domestic sphere and all the anti-imperialist forces of Latin America and the world.

Long live the alliance of the democratic forces which participate in the elections. Long live General Torrijos. We have advanced. The struggle continues.

PRIVATE INVESTMENT PACKAGE TO BOLSTER ECONOMY

PA2415l4Y Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 24 Apr 78 pp 1, 7 PA

[Text] The most extensive private investment package put together since 1975 is expected to be developed during the next 18 months, bolstering Panama's economy with productive capital in the order of B/. [designation for balboas] 172.2 million, according to a study made public by the Ministry of Planning and Political Economy.

A poll of local businessmen indicated that investments were being renewed as a result of various factors, among which were the Panama Canal problems, newly established incentive laws, a stability in labor-manager relationship and the gradual improvement in market conditions.

Investments in home-building is to total B/. 27.9 million. Urban development will involve B/. 21.1 million, the manufacturing industry B/. 80.8 million, the hotel industry B/. 29.5 million and other small industrial investments sponsored by the National Finance Corporation (COFINA) will total B/.12.9 million.

Included among the upcoming projects are:

--A crude oil storage plant with an investment of B/. 47 million, which will provide employment for 480 persons, is expected to get underway within weeks with COFINA participation.

--A glass factory, constuction of which begins this month. It will generate employment for 207 persons on a permanent basis. Also supported by COFINA, the factory calls for an investment of B/. 14 million.

--The expansion of Compania Panamena de Alimentos, S.A. in Los Santos, already underway at the cost of B/. 12.8 million, and to create employment for 175 persons.

--The construction of a new hotel adjacent to the new airport at an investment of B/. 6 million, also having COFINA's support.

--A new hotel near the convention and tourism center, tentatively budgeted at B/. 20 million. Both hotels will generate 780 new jobs and will increase the nation's hotel accommodation capacity by 520 rooms.

--Tabacalera Nacional has started an investment of B/. 4 million, and Tabacalera Istmena an expansion program at B/. 2 million.

--The First Savings Bank is financing four urban housing developments comprising 73 units at an investment of B/. 2.2 million. These projects are to get underway immediately.

--The firm Diaz & Guardia has projected an investment of B/. 6.4 million in the construction of 255 housing units in three areas. These projects, which will generate 150 new jobs at a monthly payroll of B/. 30,000, will be as follows: 60 units at Reparto Chanis, 150 in Balmoral and 45 units at Las Sabanas.

--The Banco General and its subsidiaries plan on investing B/. 4.4 million this year in the construction of 130 housing units distributed over 13 projects, providing employment to 200 persons.

--The Xerox company contemplates the construction of a regional office next to the new airport. The project is set for this year and will provide employment for 50 persons.

--Contributing to the development of local tourism, a 50-room hotel will be built in Bambito, Chiriqui Province, at an investment of B/. 2.5 million.

--The firm Aseguradora Interoceanica Capitalizadora is constructing 67 housing units for the middle class at an investment of B/. 3.5 million.

--COFINA is sponsoring the construction of a limestone factory at the cost of B/. 1.6 million.

--The seventh phase of the Cerro Viento project and the first of Las Acacias project--both sponsored by Sucasa--involves a joint investment of B/. 4.6 million and involves 350 low-cost housing units.

--A feed plant at a cost of B/. 1.8 million will be constructed this year.

--COFINA is also sponsoring several other small projects for a total invest of B/. 637,000. These include the industrialization of strawberries, a steel mill, a tire-recapping plant and a plastic container plant.

--Investment in condominiums during the next 12 months include a B/.3 million structure at La Cresta and four at Punta Paitilla for a total cost of B/. 11.2 million.

In addition, the newly established Latin American Export Bank (BLADEX) will aid Panama in its role as an international financial center, strengthening the financial transaction aspects, the announcement said.

At the moment, the international banking center compromises 86 banks with B/. 15 billion on deposit and generates more than 7,000 jobs, in addition to providing complementary benefits in the use of real estate, legal services, international communications, documentation, etc.

The existence of the banking center also speeds up the trade potential of Panama, which includes the Colon Free Zone, ship chandlering, air cargo, tourism and international reinsurance.

COMMENTATOR'S AFFILIATION WITH PANAMENIST PARTY INSINUATED

PA2411335Y Panama City DOMINICAL in Spanish 23 Apr 78 p 5A PA

[From the "Glosas Dominicales" column]

[Text] With regard to the well-known radio commentator mentioned in a previous column [Ramon Pereira], he will soon announce that he has joined the Panamenist Party. The first step in this direction has been to place Radio Mia at the service of the "party of the jug" [party symbol].

BELIZE

CONVENTION SAYS LAND SESSION TALKS MUST STOP

FL242012Y Belize City BELIZE TIMES in English 19 Apr 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Over ten thousand Belizeans: farmers, workers, teachers, housewives, businessmen, young and old, from the Rio Hondo to the Sarstoon and from the western border to the Caribbean Sea, gathered together in Belmopan for the largest political convention ever assembled in the history of Belize.

Eighteen heads of delegates, representing the eighteen electoral divisions of the country of Belize, spoke on the need for the immediate and secure independence of Belize with its territory intact.

Speaker after speaker, pledged firm support for the peaceful constructive Belizean revolution and paid special tribute to its architect and hero, the premier of Belize, the party leader, the Honourable George C. Price.

The convention with unanimous support adopted a resolution calling on the United Kingdom Government to stop immediately any discussions with the Government of Guatemala which include the idea of land cession as a means of settlement; and further requests the United Kingdom Government to adhere strictly to the terms of the relevant United Nations' resolution and other international forums calling for the early and secure independence of Belize with full sovereign and territorial integrity and for all negotiations to respect these fundamental principles. The resolution also urges the Government of Belize in cooperation with the Government of the United Kingdom and other friendly governments, to actively pursue the alternative route to independence by concluding suitable security arrangements that will ensure the safety of the Belizean people and preserve the independence of Belize.

COSTA RICA

U.S., CANADIAN PROTESTS ON BOAT SEIZURES RECEIVED

PA250247Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] This morning, the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry received diplomatic protests from the Canadian and U.S. governments over the seizure of three fishing boats--two from the United States and one from Canada--when they were caught fishing in Costa Rican jurisdictional waters last week.

In their protests, the United States and Canada state that they are protected by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission [CIAT] Treaty of which Costa Rica is a signatory.

President Daniel Oduber Quiros is a supporter of a hard line against the boats which attempted to remove marine resources from the Pacific Ocean. Today, the president ordered Foreign Minister Gonzalo Facio to reject the documents presented by Canada and to continue procedures against the boats whose crews are under the orders of the Puntarenas investigative judge and the attorney general's office. The initial reports from Puntarenas which reached San Jose last week indicated that two U.S. boats and one Canadian boat were seized with their nets out, fishing in Costa Rican waters. This was the first seizure by the patrol boat that was recently brought from New Orleans and placed in the service of patrolling our seas. Public Security Minister Mario Charpentier Gamboa told SERCANO that the captains of the three ships held in Puntarenas did not notify Costa Rican authorities that they were fishing 12 miles from Cabo Velas, as the CIAT Treaty stipulates.

Now, a legal decision will have to be issued by the Puntareans court and the attorney general's office regarding the fate of the crews. The fact that investigations for the corresponding trial are continuing means that President Daniel Oduber will not accept the requests submitted today by the United States and Canada in their diplomatic protests.

GUATEMALA

SHOTS FIRED AT FOREIGN MINISTER'S RESIDENCE

PA250206Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0108 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here today that three armed men riding in a jeep today shot at the residence of Foreign Minister Adolfo Molina Orantes in downtown Guatemala City. According to police reports, the jeep was cruising slowly through the area and on passing in front of the foreign minister's home, they started shooting. The men fled and police have been unable to capture them.

NEW ROUND OF TALKS ON BELIZE TO BE HELD IN MAY

PA250250Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] A new round of British-Guatemalan talks to solve the Belize issue has been announced for May. Contacts between the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry and British negotiator Ted Rowlands have been established. There is hope that agreements in principle will be achieved in order to solve the 150-year-old dispute.

PRESIDENT APPROVES DECREE MAINTAINING VALUE OF QUETZAL

PA241531Y Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] The president of the republic, General Laugerud Garcia, has recently sanctioned congressional Decree 1078 which keeps the foreign value of the quetzal as par with the U.S. dollar. The decree signed by the president was issued on Thursday and published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE on Friday. It was reported that this decision has several advantages (?although it does not adhere to) certain clauses of the International Monetary Fund charter.

HONDURAS

ARMY OFFICERS SAID INVOLVED IN DRUG TRAFFICKING

PA250155Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Lt Juan Angel Barahona, local Interpol chief, gave assurances today that "ranking Honduran Army officers are involved in cocaine trafficking and other Mafia crimes."

The police officer with 15 years of service said that documentary evidence and recordings "have been secured by Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, chief of the armed forces, and I do not understand why he has not ordered an investigation."

Barahona said: "I have been subjected to a Mafia conspiracy to discredit me and finish my career as a policeman because I have been the only one to confront it face to face. I am its number one enemy in Honduras."

The policeman also noted that an army major who worked in the National Investigations Department to which the Interpol and Narcotics Divisions belong "helped the Mafia boss in Honduras by turning over to him all the police records and leaving him clear. The major was paid $5,000 for this."

Barahona did not disclose the name of the major or of the other officers involved, "many of whom have several stars" (high-ranking officers).

The Honduran Interpol chief has been under investigation since last week when Colombian Pedro Luis Rojas Martinez charged him with making an illegal arrest, using torture and receiving extortion payments for nearly $20,000 for Rojas Martinez' release. Barahona admitted that he had arrested and tortured Rojas Martinez but denied having received extortion payments from him.

Legal work on behalf of the Colombian citizen was carried out by Honduran attorney Carlos David Lorenzana, who also received power of attorney from an alleged Mafia member to handle his business in Honduras and to clear his name. The person who gave Lorenzana the power of attorney is Jose Ramon Mata Lopez (or Ballesteros), whom Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia pointed out as the head of the Mafia in Honduras.

According to documents filed by attorney Lorenzana and delivered to the chief of the armed forces, Mata Ballesteros (or Lopez) is merely an investor who has favored making investments in Honduras and has no legal record or history of crime here. However, Barahona showed newsmen some documents to the contrary and also some letters exchanged with the Interpol office in the United States which prove through fingerprints that Ramon Mata Ballesteros (or Lopez) has been arrested several times, under different names, in the United States for drug trafficking.

The surprising revelations of the Interpol chief caused a major scandal here because the armed forces officially denied that any commanding officers were involved in the drug trade. Furthermore, the officers said that there was a press campaign underway to discredit the army for unspeakable and unknown reasons.

Some 3 months ago, when a couple disappeared in this capital, the Honduran press reported that ranking officers were involved in the case. It was later reported that the missing couple, Maria Ferrari and Maru Cardenas de Ferrari, were linked with the Mafia and their disappearance was the result of a settling of accounts which Ramon Mata Ballesteros (or Lopez) had ordered.

Barahona stated today that the Ferrari couple is alive, along with other people thought to be dead, and that in fact they left the country when they found out that he would become Interpol chief. In other words, they escaped because they knew that he was their number one enemy. Barahona added that he delivered documents to some friends of his who are lawyers, which will be revealed if something happens to him. "It is my safeguard," he explained. He finally noted that "Mata Ballesteros will have signed his own death sentence if something happens to my family."

NICARAGUA

PUBLIC PROTESTS FLARE AGAIN IN MASAYA, MONIMBO

PA221951Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1720 GMT 22 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Public protests flared last night in Masaya, particularly in the district of Monimbo, with an attendant increase in military repression. In incidents were marked by bonfires, bombings, arrests and shootings, according to reports received by SERCANO this morning. The Red Cross in Masaya reported that it had to remove 18 children, including several newborn babies, from the Indian district of Monimbo because they were affected by the tear gas used by troops in the area.

SCHOOL CLASSES TO RESUME SHORTLY

PA230425Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 23 Apr 78 PA

[Public Education Ministry Resolution No 4 dated 22 April 1978--read by announcer]

[Text] Whereas in a 2-hour meeting between His Excellency President Anastasio Somoza Debayle and a duly authorized delegation of parents of Catholic high school students and students of other institutions consisting of Yolanda de Vargas, Maria Teresa (Mckewan de Vergara), Pastor Torres, Rafael Zamorro and (Aitzel) Navarro de Chong, the bases were established for a solution to the problems affecting the educational sector;

Whereas many parents, who are involved in a movement to achieve the resumption of classes, and directors, teachers and students, who are deeply interested in having classes in government high schools resumed, have requested that Resolution No 3 of 14 April 1978 be revoked;

And whereas the complaints filed against certain professors of the Manuel Coronel Matus National Institute in the city of Masaya are being investigated and the professors who were implicated have been suspended in line with the procedures established in existing general high school regulations;

Resolves:

1. To annul Resolution No 3 of 14 April of this year;

2. To (?instruct) directors of high schools to report to the Public Education Ministry that they are resuming classes as soon as the national requirements for operation are met.

NATIONAL GUARD APPOINTS INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE

PA221445Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0105 GMT 22 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 21 Apr (LATIN)--The National Guard has appointed a committee to investigate yesterday's serious incidents in Bellacruz near Managua during which a military patrol killed three civilians. In a communique released 24 hours after the incidents, the National Guard states that the civilians fired guns and threw homemade fragmentation bombs at the military patrol.

However, the National Guard report differs from statements by witnesses who saw the civilians running across a field away from the National Guard. One of the civilians, who was wounded and lying on the ground, was finished off by the patrol.

The National Guard states in its communique that the people who were killed in the attack on the patrol had in their possession flags of the Sandinist Proletariat Front [Frente Sandinista Proletario], homemade fragmentation bombs, 50 pounds of nails used to puncture car tires and a revolver which they used against the patrol.

After yesterday's incidents in which four buses were burned in different sectors in Managua, the city is being intensively patrolled. All this has occurred 24 days after the workers and students began a movement to demand from the authorities the freedom of a woman who recently gave birth in jail and the transfer of prisoners to better facilities. The government has not yielded to their demands.

As 1 May, international labor day, gets closer, tension continues to mount. A pro-government workers organization has been granted permission to hold a demonstration on that day. On the other hand, independent labor organizations have been denied permission to demonstrate. However, the leaders of these organizations have said that they are going ahead with their plans with or without permission.

Government spokesmen have expressed deep concern about more disorders occurring on that day and they have even mentioned the possibility of the government temporarily suspending individual guarantees in the departments of Managua, Masaya and Cagazo.

The Nationalist Liberal Party board, which is presided over by President Anastasio Somoza, today issued a communique reiterating its firm support of Gen Anastasio Somoza at all times and under any circumstances. The party's directors have also said that they are willing to hold a dialog with the opposition in order to prevent bloodshed, the loss of lives and to maintain the country's institutionality.

PARAMILITARY GROUPS ATTACK DEMONSTRATORS

PA2414411Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Managua--Two boys were killed during violent incidents in Esteli and Diriamba. One of the boys was indentified as Wilfredo Ramon Valenzuela Perez, who died last night in Esteli when a paramilitary group opened fire against persons participating in a demonstration. The boy was the newphew of Rene Molina Valenzuela, a progoverrment deputy and president of the National Firemen Federation. Following this incident, two movie theaters and several stores suffered serious damages caused by the demonstrators. The paramilitary group fired at the demonstrators from the roofs of buildings, wounding six.

From Diriamba, we also learned that 11-year-old Hilderbranco Romero Valverde was killed Saturday night during a public demonstration in this city.

HAVANA REPORTS USSR-CUBAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE, MALMIERCA'S RETURN

FL250231Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Cuba and the USSR today signed a joint communique in which they reaffirmed that the relations of indestructible friendship between the two countries will continue strengthening based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The Cuban-Soviet joint communique is the result of a visit by Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who was received by the top leaders of the USSR party and state and by Leonid Brezhnev.

Cuba and the USSR called for successive strengthening of unity and cohesion of the socialist community countries based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, and for closer cooperation among these countries in the international field. Both parties also called for successive development of the detente process and for its spread to all regions of the world.

They supported the decision to achieve a halt in the arms race and cooperate in all ways to assure positive results from the special UN Conference on Disarmament. Both parties saw the need to prohibit the production and deployment of the neutron bomb and for the nonuse of force in international relations.

The parties also highly valued the growing role of the nonalined movement in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism. They stated their hope that the meeting in Havana of the next nonalined summit would favor the consolidation of the movement and that it constitute a notable contribution to solving important international problems.

On the situation in Latin America, they declared that the anti-imperialist forces are growing in defense of national sovereignty, for the strengthening of political independence and economic autonomy. They also called for the lifting of the North American economic blockade against Cuba and for the dismantling of the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo.

The parties condemned the apartheid policies practiced by the racist regimes of Rhodesia and South Africa and stated their solidarity with the revolutionary processes of Angola and Mozambique. They called for lasting peace in the area of the Horn of Africa and for good relations between the countries of the region.

Lastly, they condemned the direction of the Chinese leadership, which has alined itself with the world reactionary forces and has undermined socialist countries' solidarity with the liberation movements.

Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca is on his way back to Cuba.

FORESTRY COOPERATION ACCORD WITH USSR SIGNED

FL211220Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Apr 78 FL

[Text] A protocol on scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR State Committee for Forestry and the Cuban National Institute for Forestry Development Utilization has been signed in Moscow during the visit of a Cuban delegation from that economic field. The agreement calls for joint work in genetics, selection, introduction, work mechanization and control of forestry resources.

REPORTAGE ON MENGISTU VISIT TO CUBA

Castro Awards Order

FL242221Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0058 GMT 23 Apr 78 FL

[Speech by President Fidel Castro at ceremony decorating Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam with the national Order of Playa Giron held at Cubanacan Protocol Hall, Havana City--live]

[Text] Comrade Mengistu, Ethiopian and Cuban comrades: Long before you arrived in our country, before the glorious victory of the Ethiopian people against the foreign aggressors, before we had the honor to greet you in your fatherland just 12 months ago, and even before the process which lead to the cresting of the revolution and the Ethiopian state in February of last year, we already knew you. In the center of the Cuban revolutionary leadership, we knew very well that a young officer named Mengistu, with clear political ideas, an audacious and energetic nature, was the expression of the most advanced and firm thought in the midst of the political and social turbulence which left in its wake the unique and extraordinary happening of the Ethiopian revolution. Time and again, we got word of your tireless creative activities; of measures and laws, which under your support and inspiration, were transforming the feudal society of your country; of your proposals determined to have the Ethiopian revolution advance down the only paths a revolutionary process in our times can travel if it is worthy of having such a label--the paths of socialism.

From very early, when you were not yet chief of state, fraternal relations were established between you, as a genuine representative of the Ethiopian revolution, and the Cuban revolution. Especially honorable for us was the sympathy and confidence that you had in our nobel and worthy people.

We Cubans could not be indifferent to the fact that, finally, the revolution had exploded in the center of a people which throughout the ages has been so combative and heroic and at the same time so cruelly oppressed as the Ethiopian people, whose weight and importance in Africa can be measured by its size, by basically its culture, spirit of independence and its history. It was something which the Cuban revolutionaries truly desired and awaited for a long time.

No revolutionary people can be insensitive to the birth of new revolutions in the world. The political liberation and the social revolution in nations such as ours means not only colonialism's swan song but also, sooner or later, that of capitalism and imperialism.

No one could have thought that Cuba, yesterday the Latin American country most dominated by the United States, nor feudal Ethiopia, the United States' closest ally in Africa, could today be bastions of anti-imperialism and social revolution. Nor could anyone have thought of an event such as the one tonight. Nor was it possible to imagine just a year ago, the events by which the close and firm ties have developed in such a rapid manner, which today join and make our two peoples brothers.

The whole city welcomed you yesterday as dear brothers, with overflowing happiness and intimate joy, which are at the time expressions of solidarity, optimism and jubilation.

As comrades in arms for the same cause, as standard bearers of the same idea, as soldiers in the same trench, what has been said up to now makes it unnecessary to explain the reasons for which our people decorate you this evening with this Order of Playa Giron marking victory forged by the Cuban combatants against imperialist aggression 17 years ago, precisely in an April like this one. It suffices to point out that the order is the highest revolutionary distinction that we can confer, and it has always been our concern that it not only honors the person who receives it, but that awarding it also is an honor for our order. On an occasion such as this one and with appropriate remarks, Jose Marti stated: It is not the men who make nations, but nations, in their hour of genesis, usually place themselves vibrantly and triumphantly in a man. Through you, we also decorate your heroic people, the nobel and just Ethiopian revolution.

The victory of the glorious October was a victory for all oppressed peoples of the world. The victory of any revolution is, and will always be, a victory for all revolutionaries. The Ethiopian revolution's victory is therefore also our own victory.

Receive this decoration, dear Comrade Mengistu, as a symbol of our modest contribution in the anti-imperialist struggle and as a symbol of our people's recognition and gratitude for your brilliant contribution to the cause of the revolutionary movement and the deep-felt friendship and militant solidarity which today exists between our two peoples.

Fatherland or death, we will win! [applause]

Mengistu Acceptance Speech

FL250035Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0058 GMT 23 Apr 78 FL

[Speech by Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam on accepting the National Order of the Playa Giron at Cubanacan Protocol Hall, Havana City--speech in Amharic with simultaneous Spanish translation; live]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro: I am profoundly moved by the warm and fraternal welcome shown to me and my comrades by the Cuban people, leaders and especially Comrade Fidel Castro, since our arrival in this great country. I am once again moved today by your hospitality, your revolutionary solidarity and by the honor you have confered on me. I have no doubt that these same expressions of revolutionary solidarity will be a part of all our meetings in the next few days.

Comrade Fidel Castro, allow me to express my thanks for your kind words about revolutionary Ethiopia, its people and myself. We know the great historical significance of the Order of the Playa Giron. Its symbolism does not stop at the boundaries of the nation of revolutionary Cuba, because this historic landmark inspires all peoples, who despite their sacrifices, struggle to put imperialism--the principle antipopular, antipeace and anti-socialist force in the present century--into its inevitable tomb. This historical landmark is also a stimulus for the torch of socialist strength illuminating the world.

While the Ethiopian people were under the oppressive feudal-bourgeois system and complete imperialist domination, they knew very little of the true history of Playa Giron, on whose soil Cuba's best sons spilled their blood. Nevertheless, today the situation is very different for the Ethiopian masses, who in their glorious process of rebirth have become fully conscious of the historic victory and significance of Playa Giron.

It is exactly 17 years ago, in April 1961, that the United States Government united all the old exploiters, traitors and counterrevolutionaries, along with the mercenary elements, and organized them for an invasion of Cuba. The Cuban people bravely confronted the invasion. Not only that, but at the same time Commander in Chief Fidel Castro announced the socialist character of the Cuban revolution to the world. Today, neither friends nor enemies can deny the development and successes in achieving this objective.

There are great similarities between what happened 17 years ago in Cuba and the invasion into the south and east of Ethiopia, which was recently repulsed by the Ethiopian masses, who counted on the internationalist help from Cuba, the USSR and other peoples following the path of socialism. The blood of those Cubans who fell on the battlefields of Playa Giron was not spilt in vain. Their memory is honored by the successes of the sons and daughters of revolutionary Cuba, achieving levels never attained before--in education, production, public services, and in other areas of development. They in reality have revindicated the heroic compatriots who fell.

This is what has been done by revolutionary Ethiopia's workers, peasants and soldiers, inspired by the heroes of Playa Giron. They have pledged to make all the sacrifices possible in this moment of their struggle, guided by the motto: We produce while we struggle, we struggle while we produce.

I feel a singular honor in accepting the Order of Playa Giron in the name of the Ethiopian masses, who have struggled and continue struggling bravely for their liberty and dignity, making immense sacrifices. As I have stated before, Playa Giron is something truly historic and with eternal significance, because it was there that imperialism suffered for the first time its great defeat, politically and militarily, in Latin America.

In a declaration on the Angolan victory on a previous occasion, Comrade Fidel Castro called it the African Giron. After emerging victorious in the Ogaden war against the reactionary Somali governing class, I say that the great Ethiopian masses have written the second African Giron in the annals of history. [applause]

Just as Playa Giron was flooded by the blood of the brave sons of Cuba, the Ogaden soil was flooded by the blood of the revolutionary Ethiopians and Cubans. This has firmly sealed the unity and brotherhood between the two peoples. This will be eternally remembered by all of our people. All of the proposals that have been repeatedly made by the Ethiopian masses in search for a peaceful solution to this problem, and which they still maintain, have been disregarded. Therefore, the only alternative possible is to raise weapons in one hand, and at the same time extend the other hand signaling peace.

I have absolute confidence that the revolutionary Cuban people and the progressive forces of the whole world will be on our side in this struggle. The solidarity of the Cuban and Ethiopian peoples are testimony to the inevitable victorious result of all the revolutions, and it reminds me of the phrase, the phrase in the anthem, the International, with the words: The world will change classes sinking the bourgeois empire.

Lastly I would like to assure you that the Order of Playa Giron, which I accept today in the name of the great masses of revolutionary Ethiopia with great appreciation, gives us more reason, greater courage and determination. Thank you.

Mengistu Arrives in Santiago de Cuba

FL241527 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 1504 GMT on 24 April begins live coverage of arrival in Santiago de Cuba of Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam. Coverage opens with shots of a twin-engine aircraft making a landing approach at Antonio Maceo International Airport. The flags of both nations are superimposed on the screen as the plane lands at 1507 GMT. As the plane taxis to the area in front of the main terminal building, the crowd gathered on the tarmac and observation deck awaits his arrival.

At 1508 GMT the plane comes to a stop as unidentified officials wait at the foot of the ramp. Mengistu, Fidel Castro and other officials deplane at 1509 GMT. As they take positions near the plane, the Cuban national anthem is played followed by the Ethiopian anthem, as the cameras cut from shots of Mengistu and Castro to the Cuban and Ethiopian flags flying on top of the air terminal. The military band then plays a march as Mengistu, Castro and their entourage walk toward the "reception committee," with whom Castro and Mengistu shake hands.

The announcer reports that the reception committee consists of local party, government and mass organization leaders. The crowd on the observation deck waves small Cuban and Ethiopian flags. A sign there reads: "Welcome Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam." After the official welcome, Mengistu raises his arms in greeting to the crowd. Castro and Mengistu then board the lead open vehicle of the motorcade that will take them to Santiago de Cuba. The announcer reports that "thousands upon thousands of Santiagueros" are situated along the route to welcome Mengistu. The motorcade is led by a motorcycle escort as it leaves the airport at 1517 GMT.

Television coverage ends at 1519 GMT with overhead shots of the motorcade and of the Cuban and Ethiopian flags superimposed on the screen.

Mengistu Tours Santiago Museum

FL242039 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 1535 GMT on 24 April begins live coverage of Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam's arrival at the 26 July School City in Santiago. Black-and-white coverage begins with shots of the Pioneers lining the streets awaiting the arrival of Mengistu, Fidel Castro, Ramon Balaguer and the rest of the entourage.

The first to arrive are the cameramen in two trucks. Once they are in position, the dignitaries arrive. A student delegation is on hand to welcome them. A sixth grade school girl reads the welcome in the name of the students and presents him with a photo album of the school. This is followed by presentation of the school's neckerchiefs. The visitors are then invited to tour the 26 July Museum.

The delegation enters the museum at 1544 GMT. They are given a guided tour. The last room the group enters is the Solidarity Room. Fidel remarks that they will now have to add an Ethiopian exhibit. As they leave the room, Fidel begins to chat with a reporter from Television Rebelde. In answer to his question as to how long the station is on the air, she says it transmits 6 hours daily. In answer to another question, she says that although national television is received in Santiago the station originates some programs. Fidel comments that the eastern provinces must therefore get all the programs broadcast in the rest of the country. He then talks about baseball and the weather.

When the tour is concluded, Mengistu writes in the guest book and is presented with a medal as memento of his visit to the museum. The delegation leaves the museum and the television announcer states that the entourage will be going on to the Siboney farm. Television coverage ends at 1620 GMT showing the motorcade driving away from the school.

ENDALE TESEMA, OTHERS VISIT CENTRAL COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS

FL241906Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 23 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Maj Endale Tesema, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council--PMAC--standing committee in charge of social affairs, and Tesfaye Mekonned, secretary general of the political office for mass organizational affairs, were today received at the PCC Central Committee headequarters by Jesus Montane Oropesa, chief of the department in charge of mass organizations; Vilma Espin, president of the Federation of Cuban Women; Jorge Lezcano, national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution and Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers, all PCC Central Committee members and Agapito Figueroa, second secretary of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers.

At the meeting, the distinguished visitors were given a detailed briefing on the support for and functions of mass organizations in our country.

Visits Cienfuegos

FL241956Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Apr 78 FL

[Text] On Sunday, members of the Ethiopian delegation, headed by Maj Endale Tesema, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] standing committee in charge of social affairs, visited important construction sites and industrial centers in the city of Cienfuegos. The visitors traveled to that southern city accompanied by Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat, and other party and government leaders. They were received by Humberto Miguel Fernandez and Alfredo Alfonso, first and second secretaries of the party in Cienfuegos Province. Maj Endale Tesema and his entourage toured the building site which is being expanded, the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric plant, where they were extensively briefed on the construction project for this industry to erect two new generator units.

Following this, the Ethiopian delegation visited the wheat mill project and the future sprinkler irrigation equipment plant. The worker collectives at the two construction sites reiterated our people's solidarity, friendliness and warmth toward socialist Ethiopia. The "Tricontinental" bulk sugar port terminal was another site visited in Cienfuegos by the delegation from the fraternal Ethiopian nation. They were extensively briefed on the plant's operation, which has a loading capacity of 1,200 per hour.

JAMAICA

DEMONSTRATION TURNS INTO RIOT IN KINGSTON

PA180133Y Paris AFP in English 0057 GMT 18 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 17 (AFP)--Clashes broke out in Kingston today, as a peaceful demonstration protesting against the condition of the city's streets degenerated into fighting that left two policemen injured.

Trade was paralyzed, the schools were closed, and traffic could not move through the city's main streets. Some reports said that the demonstration (?degenerated) after some looters had joined the demonstrators and police moved in to disperse the crowd.

It was also reported that the army, including some helicopters, had also helped move against the demonstrators as they were moving toward residential districts of the Jamaican capital.

Calm Restored

PL211440Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Apr 78 pp 1, 2 FL

[Excerpts] Three looters were shot dead, two policemen injured by bullets and several stores looted in Kingston yesterday as demonstrations were broken up by riot squad police and marchers, demanding work, raided stores, robbed them and attacked the staff.

Downtown Kingston took on the aspect of an abandoned city as government offices, banks, stores and other business places closed. One King Street bank posted a red-lettered handwritten sign on its grilled entrance, reading:

"Due to circumstances beyond our control we will be closed for the rest of the day. Management."

The state of virtual panic in some sections of the city was heightened by suspension of the JOS bus service, the result of 17 buses being damaged after they were abandoned by their crews and passengers who were chased off by marching vandals and others. They had infiltrated a demonstration called to attract attention to bad road conditions in the West Kingston truce belt and the poor state of the Coronation Market, where the main demonstration took place.

Calm was restored to the city by mid-afternoon and a curfew from 7 o'clock last night to 6 o'clock this morning was clamped on the troubled area.

The three looters who were slain are still unidentified. A statement from the prime minister's office said they were confronted by police with army support and disappeared into a gully from which they fired at the police. The incident occurred at Torrington Bridge, Slipe Road, after a crowd of marchers had begun to loot Carby's Fashion House, 1 Slipe Road. One, also unidentified, is in the hospital under police guard.

Constant Contact

The injured policemen are Supt. Victor S. Patterson, who was shot in the right leg during the disturbance in front of the Coronation Market, and Cpl. Samuel of the mobile reserve, Harman Barracks, who was shot in the chest. His condition is said to be serious.

Three incidents could be identified yesterday amid the rumour of marches and riots. One was the demonstration on the Spanish Town Road by residents of the truce zone. The other was the looting of the Indian House in-bond shop, after its plate-glass window was smashed by the marchers who stole many items and attacked the staff. These people also invaded other stores in the area. The third was the looting of Carby's store on Slipe Road by the marchers.

Manley Asks for Patience

FL211450Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Apr 78 pp 1, 2 FL

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Michael Manley issued an appeal for "patience and calm" last night in the wake of yesterday's disturbances in the corporate area.

His statement on the disturbances was as follows:

On the basis of reports made to me by the minister of national security it appears that early this morning simultaneous demonstrations were staged in varous parts of Western Kingston led by the councillors for that constituency. The crowds blocked the road at Regent Street, Charles Street, Darling Street, and other areas. Members of these groups stated that they wanted work and they protested the state of the roads and sewage. The Denham Town police came out to disperse the demonstrations, but were heavily outnumbered and asked for reinforcements. The mobile reserves who came up discovered that some people had started looting in the area. To disperse them, tear gas was used. The police were then fired upon by snipers in the high rise buildings around.

Part of the group moved towards King Street and continued looting and fired at police radio cars. Reinforcements were sent to Western Kingston. The minister of national security together with the member of parliament visited the area and spoke to the people, requesting that they remove the barricades and return to their homes. The mayor of the corporate area, who had arrived in the area, explained that there had been delays, but the works were to have started today in the Charles Street, Beeston Street and the Darling Street area.

In a separate incident other groups split off from the main group in Western Kingston, marched into Fletchers Land and on to Orange Street and began looting at Carby's store. They were confronted by police with army support and disappeared into the gully from which they fired at the police. The fire was returned and four were shot. Three died and one was wounded. They fled leaving much loot which was recovered from the gully.

The entire distrubance lasted some four hours and was limited in the main to certain sections of Western Kingston. During the affray, one police superintendent and a corporal of the mobile reserve were injured by gunfire. The position is being monitored carefully by the police and the blockades are being removed.

Our country is going through a difficult time. Everyone must be aware of the economic situation which we along with many other Third World countries are experiencing at this time.

Negotiations of the utmost significance to the nation's future are being conducted at this very moment with the I.M.F. I urge people to display patience and calm.

On the basis of the statement by the mayor of the corporate area it appears that work to correct the problems of streets and sewer mains was going to start this week in any case. Hence the demonstration has not achieved anything that would not have happened anyway, but has created disturbance and dislocation in a completely unnecessary way.

The security forces have the situation fully under control. I appeal to all citizens to refrain from acts that only serve to cause disquiet and also to co-operate with the security forces to maintain peace and good order. The fact is that the country cannot afford the loss of production nor the dislocation which occurred today. I call upon every patriotic Jamaican to resume normal work tomorrow and to resist all voices and influences which may seek to urge disruptive action and behavior.

90 PERCENT OF SCHOOLS CLOSED BY STRIKE

FL242011Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 21 Apr 78 p 1 FL

[Excerpt] Public school teachers struck yesterday closing down over ninety percent of the schools islandwide. Teachers' colleges also joined the strike.

The Jamaica Teachers Association, whose membership numbers 16,448 of the island's 18,551 public school teachers, declared that the strike will continue until the government reacts favourably to their claims for a $20 per week wage increase.

The Acting Minister of Education, the Hon. A.G.R. Byfield, said yesterday evening that his ministry was in consultation with the prime minister, the Hon. Michael Manley, and that there was the possibility of some development in the issue today.

Thousands of teachers stayed home and thousands more students did the same in the third stoppage by the teachers in 12 years.

NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER NORDLI TO VISIT 25-29 MAY

FL071545Y Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 1 Apr 78 p 5 FL

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica--Norwegian Prime Minister Odval Nordli is to pay an official visit to Jamaica from May 25-29, a report from the prime minister's office has said here.

The invitation was expected [as received], when the Jamaican prime minister, Michael Manley, visited Norway last November.

Detailed arrangements for the visit are still being worked out, the report said.

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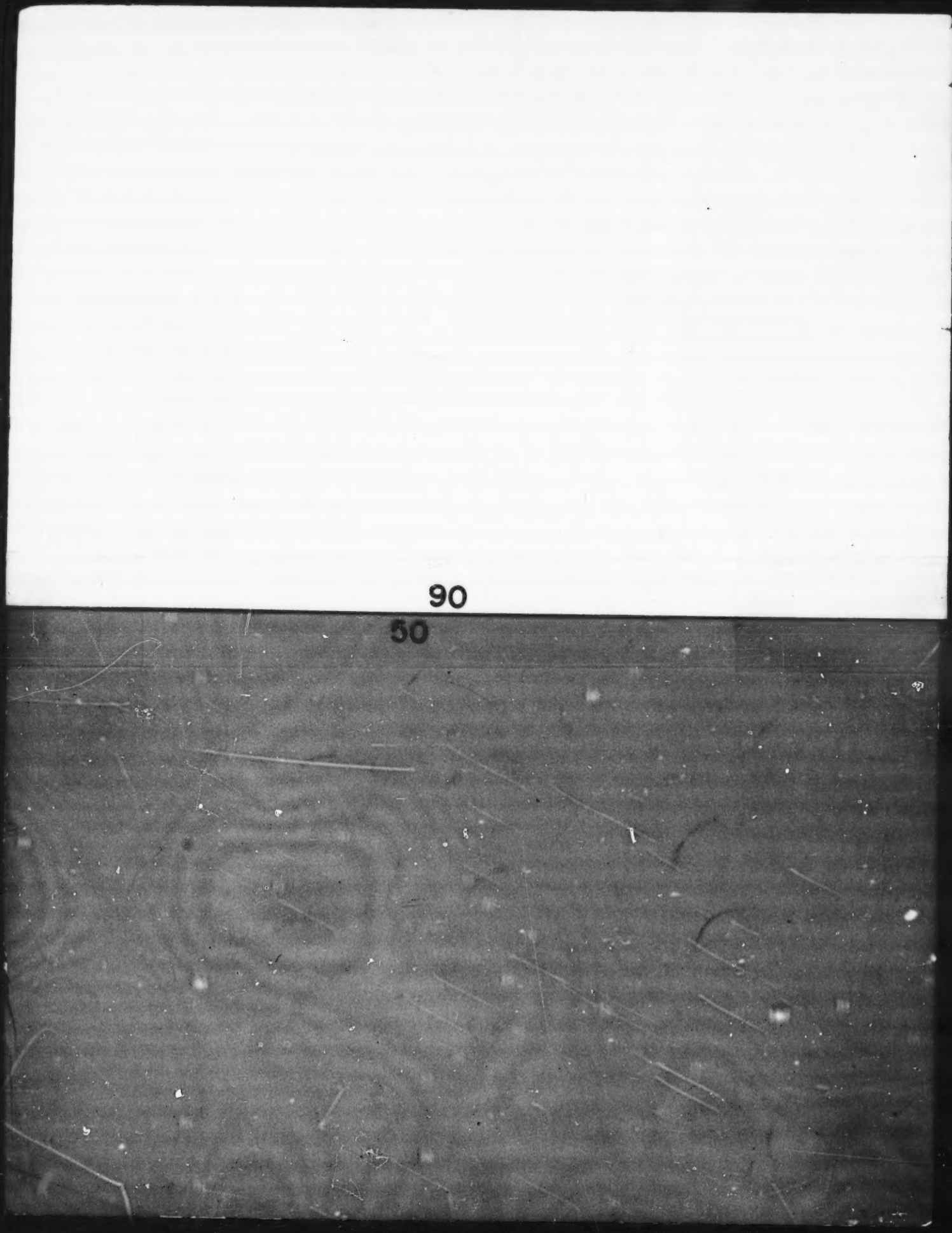
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